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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Keisuke Suzuki, et al.

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Application No.:

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Art Unit:

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Examiner:

YEVSIKOV, Victor V.

For:

METHOD OF OXIDIZING WORK PIECES AND OXIDATION

SYSTEM

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.312

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

A Notice of Allowance for the above-identified patent application has been issued with a January 21, 2005 due date for payment of the issue fee.

The undersigned courteously requests amendment of claim 8 to establish proper multiple dependency. This Amendment is being requested pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.312 prior to payment of the issue fee.

AMENDMENT OF THE CLAIMS section begins on page 2.

REMARKS section begins on page 5.